SUBJECTS

representation, he pointed out the necessity for empowering the Division First Class Magistrates to deal with bail applications when the District Magistrates were away from head-quarters on circuit, and said also that, if the Tahsildars were relieved of their Devaswom functions, it would go a great way to minimise the evils now complained of.

Dewan's reply.—I shall call for statistics and see what could be done.

27. Defects in the Criminal administration of the Changanacheri taluk and remedial measures for the same.

Mr. Parameswara Kurup Eravi Kurup (Member, Changanacheri taluk) stated that, for the last two years, house-breaking, theft and robbery in broad day-light were on the increase in the taluk and that many of the offences had not been detected by the Police. The people of the place had no security of person and property on account of the inefficiency of the agency of Criminal administration. A bi-weekly market was held in the town of Changanacheri and it was a long-standing complaint that the poor who went there for selling and buying on market days were generally deprived of their earnings by the rowdies of the place. The recent riot between the Christians and the Mahomedans of the place would also bear testimony to the laxity of the Criminal administration. To remedy this state of affairs, the Member suggested that (1) the present Magistrate might be invested with First Class powers and (2) the present Police force might be strengthened.

Dewan's reply.—Action is being taken to invest the Tahsildar at Changanacheri with First Class Magisterial powers.

28. Establishment of a First Class Magistrate's Court, a Munsiff's Court and a Sub-treasury at Kayenkulam.

Mr. A. Krishna Pillai (Member, Kayenkulam Trading Classes) represented that Kayenkulam was an important commercial centre and had long been notorious for its rowdies and robbers. People from the surrounding taluks of Karunagapalli, Karthigapalli and Mavelikara, resorted there daily for trade and other purposes and the hardships they suffered at the hands of the notorious characters of the place were innumerable. Many cases of robbery had to be left unpunished for want of a First Class Magistrate there, the people rather submitting to their lot than preferring complaints at such a distant place as Quilon. The Member pointed out another difficulty in that the cases under the Towns Conservancy and Improvement Regulation had to be sent to other places for trial, the local Sub-Magistrate being the President of the T. I. C.

Dewan.—Why not put some other officer as the President? There is the Sub-Registrar.

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